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BOOK REVIEWS

IN CHARGE OF

GRACE H. CAMERON, R.N.

NURSING IN MENTAL DISEASES. By Harriet Bailey, R. N. The Macmillan Company, New York. Price, $1.60.

In the lists of text books written for the nursing profession, we have not, until now, found one treating of the care of mental patients written by a nurse and teacher. Therefore, this is a most timely book and deserves a wide popularity. The training of the student in general hospitals includes, usually, no actual practice in the nursing of mental diseases or clinical teaching in the understanding of mental symptoms. The theory is acquired by a series of lectures. That these lectures may be more clearly impressed upon and interpreted to the young mind, a text book, giving in detail, definitions, care, symptoms, and treatments, is a necessity, and when the text book is written by an experienced and understanding nurse we have a competent guide for our students. The arrangement of the present book is excellent, and the text complete and comprehensive, including chapters on Dangers and Precautions, Accidents and Emergencies, History of the Care of the Mentally Sick, Psychology, Mental Deficiency with the Binet-Simon Intelligence Tests, and a brief chapter on Hydrotherapy.

CARE AND FEEDING OF SOUTHERN BABIES. A guide for Mothers, Nurses and Baby Welfare Workers of the South. By Owen H. Wilson, M. D. Baird-Ward Printing Company, Nashville, Tenn. Price, $1.25.

As stated by the author this is a simple guide for southern mothers and nurses because of the necessity for special restrictions in diet and clothing for southern babies. It is a small book and follows the usual arrangement for this type of book. The suggestions for traveling with a baby are unusually good.

A LABORATORY MANUAL OF PHYSIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY. By Elbert W. Rockwood, M. D., Ph. D. Fourth Edition Enlarged and Revised. Illustrated. F. A. Davis Company, Philadelphia. Price, $2.00.

An excellently arranged text-book in which the tests, preparations, reactions, etc., are concisely and clearly stated and the technique readily followed. The book is primarily for the medical student or for special work in other professions or in scientific and industrial courses. It could only be used in nurse training schools where there

are fully equipped laboratories and experienced teachers. For post-graduate work in this subject the book might prove a useful guide.

OF THE IMITATION OF CHRIST. By Thomas A. Kempis. The Edith Cavell Edition with an Introduction by Right Rev. Bishop Herbert E. Ryle, D. D., Dean of Westminster. Humphrey Milford—Oxford University Press. American Branch, 35 West 32nd Street, New York. Price, $1.50.

This little book of simple, devout meditations is so well known that no review of the subject matter is required. As nurses, we all know the sad history of Edith Cavell and the cruel death she suffered. She was committed to the prison of St. Giles, Brussels, August 5, 1915, and was executed October 12, 1915. During these days of imprisonment she had with her a copy of The Imitation of Christ. This copy she desired sent to a favorite cousin. This was accomplished through the American embassy only after a period of three years. Miss Cavell marked many passages and made some entries on the fly leaves. These markings are all faithfully reproduced in this memorial edition which is dedicated to "Queen Alexandra to whose gracious interest and encouragement the Homes of Rest for Nurses, established in memory of the supreme sacrifice of Nurse Edith Cavell, owe so much." The proceeds of the sale of this book are to assist these Homes of Rest.

NURSING PROBLEMS AND OBLIGATIONS. By Sara E. Parsons, R. N. Whitcomb and Barrows, Boston. Price, $1.00.

This third edition of a book on Nursing Ethics by Miss Parsons, is one with which every nurse, student and graduate, should be intimately acquainted. Miss Parsons is well known in the nursing profession as an instructor peculiarly gifted and with a particularly valuable experience. There is a brief preface by Richard C. Cabot, the well known physician and social worker. The conditions, contacts, and problems of a nurse's life are so sympathetically and understandingly discussed; the value of the nurse, generally, so appreciated; and the certain progress of the profession so emphatically intimated; that, from cover to cover, the book is a definite inspiration. The reading of the book is a real delight, being written in a dignified, simple, yet charming way. As a text book it will not only teach concerning nursing problems, but will acquaint the student with English and style which she may well study as a pattern.